

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1 – 11 and 13 – 34 are presented for reconsideration and further examination in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 12 and 35 – 41 have been canceled.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 10 – 12, 25, 26, 31, 33 and 34 were deemed allowable but were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim; claims 1 – 7, 13 – 15, 21 – 24, 27 – 30 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,252,001 to Quinn (hereinafter referred to as “the Quinn ‘001 patent”); and claims 8, 9 and 16 – 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,064,310 to Sullivan (hereinafter referred to as “the Sullivan ‘310 patent”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,707,172 to Wilcox (hereinafter referred to as “the Wilcox ‘172 patent”).

By this Response and Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 12; and claim 12 has been cancelled.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendment does not introduce any new matter to this application within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

### **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)**

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 7, 13 – 15, 21 – 24, 27 – 30 and 32 as being anticipated by the Quinn ‘001 patent.

### **Response**

Claim 1 has been amended and, as amended, the rejections thereto are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner indicated that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claim. By this Response and Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 12, thereby incorporating the allowable subject matter of claim 12. Applicant therefore asserts that claim 1, and the claims dependent thereon, are allowable since all claims now contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

### **Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

The Examiner rejected claims 8, 9 and 16 – 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sullivan '310 patent in view of the Wilcox '172 patent.

### **Response**

Claim 1 has been amended and, as amended, the rejections thereto are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner indicated that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claim. By this Response and Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 12, thereby incorporating the allowable subject matter of claim 12. Applicant therefore asserts that claim 1, and the claims dependent thereon, are allowable since all claims now contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

**CONCLUSION**

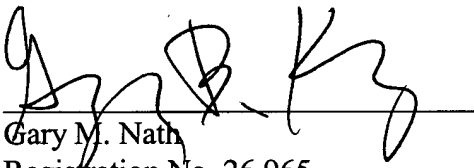
In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Date: October 7, 2005  
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Respectfully submitted,  
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